

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 182 - SB 250

February 19, 2011

SUMMARY OF BILL: Limits venue in personal injury, malpractice, product liability, and other transitory actions. Establishes general rule of several liability in tort actions. Restricts joint and several liability to cases of conscious and deliberate plans to commit a tort. Limits liability to \$500,000 for non-economic damages in medical malpractice actions and \$1 million in other actions. Creates new limitations and criteria in product liability actions. Restricts availability and amount of punitive damages awardable. Gives person who files complaint with the Board of Medical Examiners the right to attend any disciplinary hearing or proceedings. Creates a Class A misdemeanor for persuading any juror to avoid jury service or for an employer to require an employee to use vacation or sick leave time for jury service.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- These changes may affect the number of tort and product liability cases filed, venue, and potential settlements, but will not have a significant impact on the overall case load of the trial and appellate courts.
- There will not be a sufficient number of prosecutions for state or local government to experience any significant increase in revenue or expenditures.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "James W. White".

James W. White, Executive Director

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